AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

[c01] (Currently Amended) A method of providing communications services, comprising ~~the steps of~~:

receiving a request for communications service, the request for communications service originating from a client communications device and communicated to a service provider of a communications network;

communicating the request for communications service to other service providers;

receiving an availability message from at least one of the other service providers, the availability message describing what routing paths are immediately available and what bandwidth is immediately available along each routing path;

analyzing the availability message to dynamically ascertain ~~ascertaining~~ a preferred scenario of segmentation, dispersion, and assemblage of electronic data to fulfill the request for communications service; and

billing for the communications service.

[c02] (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein analyzing each availability message ~~the step of ascertaining the preferred scenario~~ comprises utilizing another communications network of another service provider.

[c03] (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein analyzing each availability message ~~the step of ascertaining the preferred scenario~~ comprises dynamically negotiating amongst the other service providers to fulfill the request for communications service.

[c04] (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein analyzing each availability message ~~the step of ascertaining the preferred scenario~~ comprises accessing a segmentation profile that comprises ~~stored in memory, the segmentation profile containing~~ preferences for preferring one service provider to another service provider.

[c05] (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein <u>analyzing each availability message</u> ~~the step of ascertaining the preferred scenario~~ comprises accessing a segmentation profile <u>that comprises</u> ~~stored in memory, the segmentation profile containing~~ preferences for preferring one communications network to another communications network.

[c06] (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein <u>analyzing each availability message</u> ~~the step of ascertaining the preferred scenario~~ comprises preferring a highest-rated service provider to provide the communications service.

[c07] (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein <u>analyzing each availability message</u> ~~the step of ascertaining the preferred scenario~~ comprises preferring a highest-rated communications network to provide the communications service.

[c08] (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ aggregating billing charges between multiple service providers of multiple communications networks.

[c09] (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8, further comprising ~~the step of~~ presenting a single billing statement, the single billing statement aggregating billing charges from another service provider of another communications network.

[c10] (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ presenting multiple billing statements from multiple service providers of multiple communications networks.

[c11] (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ billing a credit card for the communications service.

[c12]   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ accessing a segmentation profile <u>comprising</u> ~~stored in memory, the segmentation profile containing~~ preferences for billing for the communications service.

[c13]   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ accessing a segmentation profile <u>comprising</u> ~~stored in memory, the segmentation profile containing~~ preferences for presenting billing charges from another service provider of another communications network.

[c14]   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, further comprising ~~the step of~~ accessing a Service Level Agreement stored in memory, the Service Level Agreement defining preferences for billing for the communications service.

[c15]   (Currently Amended) A computer program product <u>storing processor executable instructions for performing a method, the method</u> comprising:

<u>receiving a request for communications service, the request for communications service originating from a client communications device and communicated to a service provider of a communications network;</u>
<u>communicating the request for communications service to other service providers;</u>
<u>receiving an availability message from at least one of the other service providers, the availability message describing what routing paths are immediately available and what bandwidth is immediately available along each routing path;</u>
<u>analyzing the availability message to dynamically ascertain a preferred scenario of segmentation, dispersion, and assemblage of electronic data to fulfill the request for communications service; and</u>
<u>billing for the communications service</u>

~~a computer-readable medium; and~~

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~~an Analysis Module stored on the computer readable medium, the Analysis Module receiving a request for communications service, the request for communications service originating from a client communications device and communicated to a service provider of a communications network, the Analysis Module dynamically ascertaining a preferred scenario of segmentation, dispersion, and assemblage of electronic data to fulfill the request, and the Analysis Module billing for the communications service.~~

[c16] (New) A computer program product according to claim 15, further comprising instructions for dynamically negotiating amongst the other service providers to fulfill the request for communications service.

[c17] (New) A computer program product according to claim 15, further comprising instructions for presenting a single billing statement that aggregates billing charges from another service provider.

[c18] (New) A system, comprising:

means for receiving a request for communications service, the request for communications service originating from a client communications device and communicated to a service provider of a communications network;

means for communicating the request for communications service to other service providers;

means for receiving an availability message from at least one of the other service providers, the availability message describing what routing paths are immediately available and what bandwidth is immediately available along each routing path;

means for analyzing the availability message to dynamically ascertain a preferred scenario of segmentation, dispersion, and assemblage of electronic data to fulfill the request for communications service; and

means for billing for the communications service.

[c19] (New) A system according to claim 18, further comprising means for dynamically negotiating amongst the other service providers to fulfill the request for communications service.

[c20] (New) A system according to claim 18, further comprising means for presenting a single billing statement that aggregates billing charges from another service provider.